



BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NINTH FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

PENNY SCHWINN
COMMISSIONER

April 7, 2021

Electronic Mail

Kristy Brown, Director of Schools
Jackson County Schools
711 School Drive
Gainesboro, Tennessee 38562-9576

kristybrown@jacksoncoschools.com

Dear Ms. Brown,

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3004(a) (6) In the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff during a school year, the commissioner of education may waive for that school year the requirement under subdivision (a)(1) of one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction, if a request is submitted to the commissioner by the director of schools. The waiver request may be for the entire LEA or for individual schools within the LEA.

The Jackson County school system has requested approval for the closure of schools on April 29, 2021 and is requesting that an instructional day be waived due to extensive flooding and no drinking water. Due to the flooding and no drinking water that endangered students, the department is accepting this request to waive one instructional day for April 29, 2021.

Pursuant to my above referenced authority, I hereby grant a waiver to Jackson County Schools for one instructional day for April 29, 2021. Please revise the calendar in EIS to indicate the change. Thank you for continuing to notify the Department of your needs related to your school calendar.

Sincerely,

Penny Schwinn, Ph.D.
Commissioner

Request for Waiver of Required Instructional Days

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-3004(a)(6), in the event of a natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering students or staff, the commissioner of education may waive the requirement for school district calendars to include one hundred eighty (180) days of classroom instruction for the current school year.

1. **Date of Waiver Request:** 04-05-2021
2. **Local Education Agency (LEA):** Jackson County Schools-440
3. **Name of Director of Schools (print):** Kristy Brown
4. **Number of Remaining Stockpile days (as of date of submission):** 0 Days

5. Specify the nature of the natural disaster or serious outbreaks of illness affecting or endangering your LEA's students or staff:

NOTE: 2020 Responses to March Tornadoes or COVID-19: If LEA is requesting waiver of instructional days due to either the March tornadoes or COVID-19 closures, please simply put these as the reasons in the description section below.

Severe flooding on 4-28 and 4-29-2021 in Jackson County required schools to be closed on 4-29-21.
One school had extensive flooding and three of four schools had no drinking water. Measures were taken to reroute buses due to washed out roads and to provide water for schools by the next day.

6. Attach your LEA's continuity of instruction plan (CIP) or specify below why your LEA is unable to make up the lost instructional days or implement a CIP.

Jackson County Schools have been open 5 days a week in person this school year. There are no days Monday through Friday between now and the end of the school year to make up the day.
We are requesting a waiver for one day due to natural disaster in Jackson County.



Director of School's Signature

4/6/2021

Date